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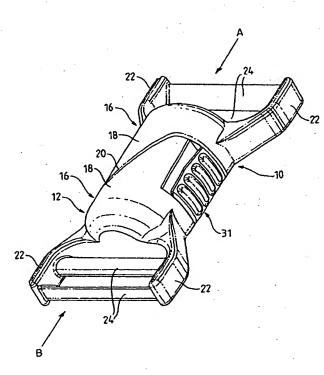
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(54) Title: CLASP



(57) Abstract: A clasp is described that comprises two identical parts (10, 12) that can be joined together to fasten the clasp and that can be separated from each other to release the clasp. Each of the first and second parts includes: a) a resilient latch (14) with an outwardly facing barb (26); b) a channel (32) for receiving the barb of the other part; c) a catch (35) located in the channel for engagement with the barb of the other part when the two parts are pushed together in an axial direction (A); d) a housing (16) containing the channel and extending transversely over the width of the part, the housing having an interface surface (20) extending between the latch (14) and the catch (35) and abutting the corresponding interface surface of the other part when the clasp is fastened, the interface surface extending diagonally with respect to the axial direction (A) such that the interface surface in the region of the catch (35) is located axially behind the interface surface in the region of the barb (26); the barb (26) of each part engages the catch (35) of the other part as the two parts are pushed together, the engagement keeping the parts together. The latches (14) of the two parts can be moved to release each barb (26) from the catch (35) of the other part. The interface surfaces (20) of the two parts are arranged to slide over each other to separate the two parts when the barbs are released from the catches.

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before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

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